

Content of the Status of Forces Surveys (SOFS) of Reserve Component Members

All of the Reserve component Status of Forces Surveys (SOFR) contained recurring measures (i.e., outcomes and moderators) of overall satisfaction, retention intention, perceived readiness, stress, and TEMPO.

November 2004 Status of Forces Survey of Reserve Component Members

In addition to recurring survey items, the *November 2004 SOFR* covered deployments since September 11, 2001, employment/volunteerism as a first responder and/or emergency services worker, and factors influencing members' decisions to stay in the National Guard/Reserve. The survey also included questions on spouse/family use of, and satisfaction with, TRICARE, as well as comparisons to civilian health care plans. Lastly, the survey covered details on commissary and exchange use, satisfaction, and comparisons to stores in the community. A special sample design was used to sample for members who were or were not activated in the 24 months prior to the survey, and who were demobilized prior to the survey.

May 2004 Status of Forces Survey of Reserve Component Members

In addition to recurring survey items, the *May 2004 SOFR* covered retention intentions, organizational commitment, and satisfaction with aspects of being in the National Guard/Reserve. In response to policy office needs, questions were included on income change during activation and since deactivation, the demobilization process, and reemployment after activation/deployment. Lastly, in cooperation with the Department of Labor, additional questions were included on Uniformed Services Employment and Reemployment Rights Act (USERRA) briefings, seeking assistance with USERRA-related problems, and the formal USERRA complaint process. A special sample design was used to sample for members who were or were not activated in the 24 months prior to the survey, and who were demobilized prior to the survey.

September 2003 Status of Forces Survey of Reserve Component Members

In addition to recurring survey items, the *September 2003 SOFR* primarily addressed experiences with activation and deployment in the past 12 months to include utilization, support programs for families and members, health care, and employer support. It covered incentives to join/stay in the National Guard/Reserve, marital discord, deployment operations, combat involvement, support services to members returning from operations, and housing during activation. A special sample design was used to sample for members who were or were not activated in the 24 months prior to the survey.

May 2003 Status of Forces Survey of Reserve Component Members

This was the initial, or "tryout," Web-based survey of Reserve component members. In addition to recurring survey items, the overarching topics covered in the survey were satisfaction and

retention. Special emphasis was given to past and current experiences with activation and deployment. The survey was subdivided into questions covering the following 12 topic areas: satisfaction with aspects of military service, career intentions, most recent activation/deployment, past activations/deployments, employment/student status, TEMPO/readiness, activation notification/preparation, activation problems, income change, health care, employer support, and background information. A special sample design was used to sample for members who were or were not activated in the 24 months prior to the survey.